

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9162

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TAGS EAID OECD

SUBJECT: COUNCIL REVIEW OF OECD TECHNICAL COOPERATION (TECO)
PROGRAM

REF: C(73)56

1. WASHINGTON ATTENTION IS CALLED TO REF DOCUMENT WHICH CONTAINS
SECGEN PROPOSAL ON FUTURE OF TECO PROGRAM. AS WASHINGTON
AWARE, COUNCIL REVIEW OF TECO PROGRAM IN 1970 (SEE C(70)50)
RESULTED IN APPROVAL OF THREE YEAR PLAN (1971-3) AND PROVISION
THAT COUNCIL WOULD EVALUATE PROGRAM IN 1973. IN SUM, SECGEN
PROPOSAL IS THAT PROGRAM WILL BE PHASED DOWN OVER NEXT THREE
YEAR PERIOD (1974-76) AND RECIPIENT COUNTRIES WILL SUBSTANTIALLY
INCREASE THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO PROGRAM. BY 1976 ALL RECIPIENTS
EXCEPT TURKEY WILL CONTRIBUTE 90-0/0 OF COSTS OF TECO ACTIVITIES
IN THEIR COUNTRIES. (AVERAGE CONTRIBUTION BY RECIPIENTS IN 1973
IS APPROXIMATELY 45-0/0.) TOTAL SIZE OF PROGRAM WILL ALSO
BE REDUCED BY APPROXIMATELY 10-0/0 EACH YEAR WITH CORRESPONDING
DECREASE IN COSTS FOR SECRETARIAT STAFF. COUNCIL WILL REVIEW
PROGRAM IN EARLY 1976.

2. MISSION EXPECTS SOME RECIPIENT COUNTRIES WILLBE UNHAPPY
THAT PROPOSAL CALLS FOR RATHER DRAMATIC INCREASES IN THEIR
PERCENTAGE CONTRIBUTIONS. US POSITION AND THAT OF SEVERAL OTHER
DELEGATIONS HAS BEEN THAT OECD FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION TO
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PROGRAM SHOULD TERMINATE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THEREFORE, SECGEN PROPOSAL SOMEWHAT OF COMPROMISE BETWEEN RECIPIENTS, WHO HAVE OFTEN SPOKEN OUT LOUDLY IN FAVOR OF PROGRAM, AND VIEW LED BY US. PROPOSAL, HOWEVER, HAS STRONG TILT TOWARDS US VIEW SINCE BY 1976 THERE WOULD BE VIRTUAL ELIMINATION OF OECD FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION. SECRETARIAT STAFF HAS POINTED OUT IN INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS WITH MISSION THAT IT ESSENTIAL FOR OECD TO MAINTAIN SMALL FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION IN ORDER FOR SECRETARIAT TO EXERCISE ANY INFLUENCE AT ALL ON ACTIVITIES. MISSION AGREES WITH THIS VIEW AND THEREFORE RECOMMENDS US SUPPORT SECGEN PROPOSAL. ACTION REQUESTED: AUTHORIZATION TO SUPPORT SECGEN PROPOSAL IN C(73)56. BROWN

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